proposals of MRTP companies for substantial expansion, establishment of new units, merger, amalgamation, takeover, etc. in terms of the relevant provisions of the MRTP Act, 1969, it is ensured that increase in assets of large industrial houses and dominant undertakings does not take place to the common detriment.

(b) The time and effort involved in compilation of details of undertakings registered under the MRTP Act, 1969 will not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be achieved. However, the latest directory of MRTP companies as on 30.6.88 was published in August, 1988 issue of the Department of Company Affair's Journal: 'Company News & Notes', copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(c) Recently, it has been decided to treat dominant undertakings as non-MRTP companies for the purposes of industrial licensing except for the items in which they are dominant. However, the position in regard to these undertakings under the MRTP Act remains unchanged.

Visit of Chinese delegation to conduct study on Indian Petro-Chemical industry

1433. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high level Chinese delegation is expected to visit India shortly to conduct a study on the Indian petro-chemical industry and to workout arrangements for mutual cooperation and trade possibilities through joint ventures in the third world countries as reported in the Hindustan Times of the 16th July, 1989; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL): (a) and (b) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between Sinopec of China and Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limittd which provides for cooperation in areas of technology transfer, research & development, training and trade, etc. in the field of petrochemicals. The Chinese delegation is expected to visit India shortly to further explore the possibilities of cooperation between two countries in petrochemicals field.

Variation in rates of petrol|diesel in different States

1434. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATUAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the rates of petrol and diesel are not the same in all the States and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) what is the break-up of the rates and how Government justify different rates in different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The ex storage point prices of petrol and diesel are uniform throughout the country. However, the retain prices vary from place to place because of freight, State imposts and other local levies etc. The break up of the retail prices therefore, varies from place to place.

Setting up of Gas-based power station at Gandhar in Gujarat

1435. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL:
SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gujarat is facing power deficit;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Central Electricity Authority has given